

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Advisory Action dated June 28, 2005 and the Final Office Action dated February 11, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 7, and 10 are hereby amended; and claims 3 and 21-22 are hereby canceled. Claims 23 and 24 are added. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-20, 23 and 24 are currently pending, with claims 9 and 12-20 withdrawn from consideration. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

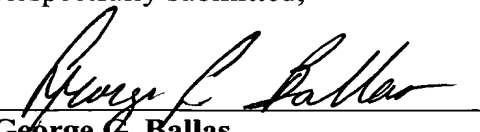
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 11, 2005

By


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